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DR. MICHAEL O'CONNELL REMEMBERED

by Author

Michael with Sweet Pea

Michael was born in Waco and raised in Lake Jackson, Texas. He served in the USMC where he learned and helped develop computer programs. In civilian life he continued to work in the infant computer industry and served on the CODASYL (Conference on Data Systems Languages) committee which helped define the COBOL communications specifications. He was the first chairman of the CODASYL Data Base Language Task Group.

In 1977 he attended an employer sponsored workshop that was for employees groomed to go up the corporate ladder. He later described this a turning point in his journey of discovery in life. It "woke up the right side of my brain". That workshop was run by the NTL (National Training Labs), in Bethel, Maine. He continued to attend these seminars over the next five years as a participant, and eventually as a trainer. He continued to work in the computer field but began work on his masters and then his Doctorate in psychology at Harvard. After receiving his doctorate, he had a private consulting practice serving corporations and individuals.

While at Harvard, Michael met Dr. Charles Campbell McArthur and became interested in his work with counseling individuals who believed they were abducted by aliens. He volunteered his services and worked with Dr. McArthur on PEER (Program for Extraordinary Experience). Michael was a trained Ericksonian hypnotist.

Over the years he did regressions with many "abductees” and past life regressions with other clients. In doing so, he began to realize that there is a reality beyond our 5 senses. His conception of the world began to expand beyond the universe. During this time, he received a Masters in Astronomy from the University of Western Sydney, Australia. Since 1977, his path crossed that of many individuals who encouraged him to "go to The Monroe Institute". But it wasn't until after he retired that he was able to attend.

He attended Gateway in the early 2000’s and became a firm believer in the principles of The Monroe Institute. He was looking forward to the coming workshop for the Focus groups in June.

In mid-February, he was diagnosed with metastatic cancer. The progression of the disease was very rapid. He left this incarnation early on March 29th. All that knew him, are positive that he is off on new and exciting journeys of exploration.